

What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating the skin of a subject, said method comprising the steps of:

5 (a) accessing a sample of interstitial fluid from the skin of said subject;

(b) measuring the amount of a skin analyte in said sample; and

10 (c) applying a skin care product to said subject to alter the amount of said skin analyte in the skin of said subject.

15 2. A method of claim 1, wherein said method comprises creating a opening in the stratum corneum of the skin of said patient and accessing said sample through said opening.

20 3. A method of claim 2, wherein said opening is created with a needle, a blade, a laser, or an electric arc.

4. A method of claim 3, wherein said opening is created with a laser.

25 5. A method of claim 2, wherein said sample is extracted through said opening under negative pressure.

30 6. A method of claim 3, wherein said sample is extracted through said opening under negative pressure.

7. A method of claim 1, wherein said skin analyte is a vitamin, an immunoglobulin, an insulin-like growth factor, an interleukin, an interleukin receptor antagonist, or a metalloproteinase.

8. A method of claim 1, wherein said skin analyte is vitamin C.

9. A method of claim 6, wherein said skin analyte is a vitamin, an immunoglobulin, an insulin-like growth factor, an interleukin, an interleukin receptor antagonist, or a metalloproteinase.

10. A method of claim 6, wherein said skin analyte is vitamin C.

11. A method of claim 1, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

12. A method of claim 2, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

13. A method of claim 4, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

14. A method of claim 6, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

15. A method of claim 10, wherein said method further comprises comparing the amount of said analyte is compared to a reference standard.

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16. A method of claim 1, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

17. A method of claim 2, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

18. A method of claim 4, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

19. A method of claim 6, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

20. A method of claim 10, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

21. A method of claim 11, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

22. A method of claim 12, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

23. A method of claim 13, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

24. A method of claim 14, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

5           25. A method of claim 15, wherein said skin care product comprises a vitamin.

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